(c) The scheme provides the opportunity to unemployed youths to get agency for selling unreserved tickets. However, there is no specific quota in the scheme for unemployed youths.

Electrification of New Jalpaiguri railway line

†690.SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to electrify the New Jalpaiguri railway line;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the work on this project is likely to be started and completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) New Jalpaiguri railway station falls on Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati rail line. Electrification of Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati section has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs.821.53 crore. Electrification work has been started in Barauni-Katihar section from January 2009. The entire section is targeted for completion by March, 2012.

Rail accident at unmanned crossing near Moga in Punjab

691. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a school bus with school children travelling therein met with an accident with a rail engine on an unmanned crossing near Moga in Punjab, recently;

(b) if so, the number of children who lost their lives and those seriously injured in the mishap; and

(c) the extent of ex-gratia payment made by the Railways, if any, to the parents of the children killed and injured?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. On 02.02.2009 at 08.20 hours, one school van dashed against Diesel Light Engine at Unmanned Level Crossing No. 71-C between Firozeshah-Talwandi stations near Moga on Firozepur Division of Northern Railway. This accident resulted into death of 3 children, grievous injuries to 6 children and simple injuries to 7 children.

(c) As the accident at the unmanned level crossing near Moga has happened due to carelessness of the Bus driver, no ex-gratia has been paid to the parents of those dead and injured children.

Rail-road over/under bridges in Himachal Pradesh

692. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposed rail-road over/under bridges in Himachal Pradesh pending for sanction; and

(b) the time by when these projects are likely to be sanctioned and the details of the funds allocated for these projects?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No proposal is pending for Cost Sharing work, however, 3 proposals of ROBs (Road Over Bridges) (I) near Fared on Pathankot-Jogindernagar Section (2) near Tillha Village on Sirhind-Unna Section and (3) near Baijnath Mahakal on Pathankot-Jogindernagar Section, are pending.

(b) All the Three proposals are to be taken up on deposit terms. These will be taken up only after State Govt. fulfills all the preliminary pre-requisites & deposits money (Cost of the works) with Railways.

Multi pronged programme to combat terrorism

693. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the latest multi-pronged programme chalked out by Indian Railways to combat the menace of terrorist, naxalites and other disruptive forces trying to target trains and stations;

(b) the details thereof, till-date;

(c) whether CCTVs have been installed at all metro and other railway stations as well as deployment of adequate number of RPF; and

(d) what budgetary allocation has been made during the current financial year as compared to previous year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Railway Protection Force, an Armed Force of the Union under Ministry of Railways, is presently supplementing the efforts of the respective State Governments in combating terrorist, naxalites and other disruptive activities over Railways. Although the maintenance of the law and order and to tackle the problem of terrorists, naxalites attacks and other disruptive activities over Railways is the responsibility of the State Government concerned through Government Railway Police. However, Railway Protection Force is supplementing the Government Railway Police to tackle such problems. Following measures have been initiated for strengthening of RPF *viz*.-

i) RPF/RPSF staff have been deployed at important stations and in trains and briefed to be prepared to tackle any situation.

ii) Staffs have been put on alert to prevent such incidents.

iii) Government Railway Police and State Police have also been asked to strengthen the security arrangements at Railway stations and in trains.

iv) Close coordination with State Police and Intelligence agencies have been maintained to share information of such acts.

v) Allocation of Rs 60.76 Crore for procurement of modern security equipment for RPF.

vi) Allocation of Rs 14.26 Crore for procurement of vehicles for RPF.